The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-51 (Cancelled).

52. (New) A method for operating a sequencer, the sequencer including a plurality of ports including a first port, the method comprising:

performing automatic active port detection on a first portion of the plurality of ports;

automatically identifying the first port as an active port in response to a determination that an external component is connected to the first port;

automatically identifying the first port as an inactive port in response to a determination that no external component is connected to the first port; and

sequencing only a selected portion of ports of the sequencer which have been identified as active ports;

wherein the sequencing of a selected active port includes distributing power to the selected active port during a first time interval, and preventing distribution of power to the selected active port during a second time interval.

53. (New) The method of claim 52 wherein said automatic determining includes detecting for a presence of a current flowing through the first port during a third time interval; and

identifying the first port as an active port in response to a determination that a current is flowing through the first port during the third time interval.

54. (New) The method of claim 52 wherein the first port is not operable to communicate with the external component using a data communication protocol.

55. (New) The method of claim 52 wherein the first port is devoid of a data communication interface for facilitating transmission of data from the sequencer to the external component.

56. (New) The method of claim 52 wherein the sequencing of the selected active port is performed without transmitting data to the selected active port using a data communication protocol.

57. (New) The method of claim 52 wherein said sequencing includes distributing only power to selected active ports according to a predefined pattern.

58. (New) The method of claim 52 wherein the external component includes a length of electrolumiscent wire.

59. (New) The method of claim 52 wherein the external component includes a light emitting diode.

60. (New) A computer program product, the computer program product including a computer usable medium having computer readable code embodied therein, the computer readable code comprising computer code for implementing the method of claim 52.

61. (New) A method for sequencing selected ports of an electronic device, the electronic device including a first port and a second port, the method comprising:

performing automatic active port detection on at least one of the selected ports in order to identify at least one active port of the electronic device;

wherein said active port detection includes automatically determining whether an external load is connected to at least one of the selected ports; and

sequencing only a selected portion of ports of the electronic device which have been identified as active ports;

wherein the sequencing of a selected active port includes distributing power to the selected active port during a first time interval, and preventing distribution of power to the selected active port during a second time interval.

62. (New) The method of claim 61 further comprising:

automatically identifying at least one non-active port of the electronic device;

wherein a non-active port is characterized by a port which is not electrically connected to an external load; and

ignoring non-active ports in sequencing operations performed by the electronic device.

63. (New) The method of claim 61 wherein the external load includes at least one of: a capacitive load, a resistive load, and an inductive load.

64. (New) The method of claim 61 wherein said automatic determining includes automatically detecting for a presence of a current flowing through a first port; and

identifying the first port as an active port in response to a determination that a current is flowing through the first port.

65. (New) The method of claim 61 wherein the selected active port is not operable to communicate with the external component using a data communication protocol.

66. (New) The method of claim 61 wherein the selected active port is devoid of a data communication interface for facilitating transmission of data from the electronic device to the external load.

67. (New) The method of claim 61 wherein the sequencing of the selected active port is performed without transmitting data to the selected active port using a data communication protocol.

68. (New) The method of claim 61 wherein said sequencing includes distributing only power to selected active ports according to a predefined pattern.

69. (New) The method of claim 61 wherein the external load includes a length of electrolumiscent wire.

70. (New) The method of claim 61 wherein the external load includes a light emitting diode.

71. (New) A computer program product, the computer program product including a computer usable medium having computer readable code embodied therein, the computer readable code comprising computer code for implementing the method of claim 61.

72. (New) A sequencer comprising:

a plurality of ports including a first port;

at least one processor; and

memory;

the sequencer being operable to perform automatic active port detection on a first portion of the plurality of ports;

the sequencer being further operable to automatically identify the first port as an active port in response to a determination that an external component is connected to the first port;

the sequencer being further operable to automatically identify the first port as an inactive port in response to a determination that no external component is connected to the first port; and

the sequencer being further operable to sequence only a first portion of ports of the sequencer which have been identified as active ports;

wherein the sequencing of a selected active port includes distributing power to the selected active port during a first time interval, and preventing distribution of power to the selected active port during a second time interval.

73. (New) The sequencer of claim 72 being further operable to:

detect for a presence of a current flowing through the first port during a third time interval; and

identify the first port as an active port in response to a determination that a current is flowing through the first port during the third time interval.

74. (New) The sequencer of claim 72 wherein the first port is not operable to communicate with the external component using a data communication protocol.

75. (New) The sequencer of claim 72 wherein the first port is devoid of a data communication interface for facilitating transmission of data from the sequencer to the external component.

76. (New) The sequencer of claim 72 being further operable to perform sequencing of the selected active port without transmitting data to the selected active port using a data communication protocol.

77. (New) The sequencer of claim 72 wherein said sequencing includes distributing only power to selected active ports according to a predefined pattern.

78. (New) The sequencer of claim 72 wherein the external component includes a length of electrolumiscent wire.

79. (New) The sequencer of claim 72 wherein the external component includes a light emitting diode.

80. (New) A sequencing system comprising:

a plurality of ports;

at least one processor;

memory;

the sequencing system being operable to perform automatic active port detection on at least one of the selected ports in order to identify at least one active port of the electronic device;

wherein said active port detection includes automatically determining whether an external load is connected to at least one of the selected ports; and

the sequencing system being operable to sequence only a selected portion of ports of the electronic device which have been identified as active ports;

wherein the sequencing of a selected active port includes distributing power to the selected active port during a first time interval, and preventing distribution of power to the selected active port during a second time interval.

81. (New) The sequencing system of claim 80 further comprising:

means for automatically identifying at least one non-active port of the electronic device;

wherein a non-active port is characterized by a port which is not electrically connected to an external load; and

means for ignoring non-active ports in sequencing operations performed by the electronic device.

82. (New) The sequencing system of claim 80 wherein the external load includes at least one of: a capacitive load, a resistive load, and an inductive load.

83. (New) The sequencing system of claim 80 further comprising:

means for automatically detecting for a presence of a current flowing through a first port; and

means for identifying the first port as an active port in response to a determination that a current is flowing through the first port.

84. (New) The sequencing system of claim 80 wherein the selected active port is not operable to communicate with the external component using a data communication protocol.

85. (New) The sequencing system of claim 80 wherein the selected active port is devoid of a data communication interface for facilitating transmission of data from the selected active port to the external load.

86. (New) The sequencing system of claim 80 wherein the sequencing of the selected active port is performed without transmitting data to the selected active port using a data communication protocol.

87. (New) The sequencing system of claim 80 wherein said sequencing includes distributing only power to selected active ports according to a predefined pattern.

88. (New) The sequencing system of claim 80 wherein the external load includes a length of electrolumiscent wire.

89. (New) The sequencing system of claim 80 wherein the external load includes a light emitting diode.